

**A**rticles to  
be enquired in the visita-  
tion, in the fifth year of the  
raigne of our moste dread So-  
ueraigne Lady, Elizabeth  
by the grace of G<sup>OD</sup>,  
of Englande,  
France,  
and  
Irelande, Queene,  
defendour of  
the faith,  
¶

*Anno. 1559.*

R. I.



# ARTICLES.



**Item, whether any** 1.  
**Parson, vicar, or** Responſe.  
**Curate, be reſide**  
**continually upon**  
**his Benefice, do**  
**ing his duetie in**  
**preachyng, redyng**  
**and due lye mini**  
**ſtringe the holpe**  
**Sacramentes,**

**Item, whether** 2.  
**in their Churches** Falſe mira  
**cles.**

**and Chappelles, all Images, Shrynes, all Ta**  
**bles, Candellickes, Crindelless, or rolles of war**  
**pictures, payntynge, and all other monumens**  
**tes of fayned and falſe miracles, pilgrimages,**  
**idolatrie, and ſuperſtition, be remoued, abo**  
**Wed, and deſtroyed.**

**Item, whether they do not every Holpdaye** 3.  
**when they haue no Sermon, immediatly after** Lordes  
**the Goſpell, openly, playnely, and diſtinctly, re** prayer.  
**ſyte to the, payſſioners in the Pulpitte, the**  
**Lordes prayer, the beſteſe, and the tenne Com**  
**maundementes in Englyſhe.**

**Item, whether they do charge fathers and** 4.  
**mothe, maſters, and gouernours of youth, to** To bring  
**bring them by in ſome vertuous ſtude and oc**  
**cupation,**

**Item,**

**Item,**

Carnes.

Item, whether such beneficed menne as be lawfully absent from theyr benefices, do leave theyr cures to rude and unlearned parson, and not to an honest well learned and expert Curate whiche can and will teache you hollsome doctrine.

Readyng the  
Scriptures.

6. Item, whether they do discourage any person from readyng of any part of the Byble, either in Latin or English, and do not rather comfort and exhort every person to reade the same at convenient tymes, as the very lynely worde of God, and the speciall foode of mans soule.

Lanernes  
and games.

7. Item, whether parsons, curates, Curates, and other spiritual persons, by common hauncers and resort to Lanernes or Alehouses, geuyng them selves to drynking, rynging, and playing at unlawfull games, and do not occupy their felmes in the readyng or hearyng of some part of holye Scriptures, or in some other good exercise.

Preachers.

8. Item, whether they have admitted any man to preach in theyr cures, not being lawfully licensed therunto, or have ben licensed accordingly.

Superstition

9. Item, whether they do declare to theyr parishioners anything to the exhorting or setting forth of bayne and superstitious religion, pilgrimages, reliques, or images, or anything

of

of candles, kneeling, kneeling, or decking of the  
saint ymages.

Item, whether they haue one booke or regi-  
flor hepe, wherein they write the daye of every  
weddyng, churcheing, and baptyng.

10.  
Register.

Item, whether they haue exhorted the people  
to obedience to the Quenes Maiestie, and mini-  
sters, and to charitie and loue one to another.

11.  
Obedience.

Item, whether they haue admonished they  
parishyoners, that they ought not to presume to  
receiue the Sacrament of the body and bloud of

12.  
The Sacra-  
ment.

Christ, before they can saye perfectly the wordes  
prayer, the articles of the faith, and the ten com-  
maundementes in Englyshe.

21.  
Communion.

Item, whether they be resident vpon they  
benefices, and haue hospitalitie, or no. And yf  
they be not, and haue not hospitalitie, whether  
they do relieue they parishyoners, and what  
they geue them.

13.  
Hospitalitie.

Item, whether proprietaries, parsons, vic-  
cars, and Clarkes, hauing Churches, Chappels,  
and Mansions, do kepe they Chauncels, Recto-  
ries, vicarages, and all other houses appertay-  
nyng to them, in due reparations.

14.  
Reparations.

Item, whether they do counsaile or moue  
they parishyoners rather to praye in a tongue  
not knowen, then in Englyshe, or yf they  
do.

15.  
Prayer in  
Englyshe.

And thus

Beades.

trust in any certayne number of prayers, as in  
laying ouer a number of Beades, or other lyke.

Discontented  
persons.

16. Item, whether they haue receyued any per-  
sons to the Communion, beyng openly known  
to be out of charitie with theyr neighbours, or  
disfamed with any notozious cryme, and not  
reformed.

Poore mens  
bore.

17. Item, whether they haue provided and haue  
a strong Chest for the poore mens bore, and set  
and fastened the same in a place of the Church  
most conuenient.

Testaments.

18. Item, whether they haue diligently called  
vpon, exhorted, and moued theyr parsoners,  
and especiall ye when they make theyr testamen-  
tes, to geue to the sayde poore mens bore, and to  
bestowe that vpon the poore, whiche they were  
wont to bestowe vpon pilgrimages, pardons,  
rentalles, and vpon other lyke blind deuotions.

Poore mens  
bore.Sicke.  
Buriall.

19. Item, whether they haue denyed to visite the  
sicke, or bury the dead, beyng brought to the  
Church.

Seymonie.

20. Item, whether they haue bought theyr be-  
nefices, or come to them by fraude, guyle, deceit,  
or simonie.

Seymonie.

21. Item, whether they haue geuen open moni-  
tion to theyr parsoners, to detect and present  
to



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to they? Ordinarie, all adulterers, and fornicators, and such men as haue two wiues luyng, within they? paryshes.

Item, whether they haue monished they? paryshioners openly, that they should not sell, geue, nor otherwyle alienate anye of they? Churche goodes.

Item, whether they or any of them do hepe mo benefices and other Ecclesiasticall promotions, then they ought to do, not hauyng sufficient licences and dispensations thereunto, and howe many they be, and they? names,

Item, whether they minister the holpe Communion any other wyle, then onlye after suche forme and maner as it is set forth by the common auctoritie of the Queenes Maiestie and the Parliament.

Item, whether you knowe any person with in your paryshe, or els where, that is a letter of the worde of God to be read in Englyshe, or sincerely preached in place and times commended

Item, whether in the tyme of the Letanye, or any other common prayer, in the tyme of the Sermon or Homilye, and when the Priest readeth the Scriptures to the paryshioners, anye person haue departed out of the Churche, without iuste and necessarye cause, or disturbe the Minister

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**Church money.** 27. **Minister other wise.** Item, whether the money commynge and ry-  
 syng of any cattell or other moueable stockes of  
 the Churche, and money geuen and bequeathed to  
 the sendyng of torches, lightes, tapers, or lam-  
 pas, not payde out of any landes, have not ben  
 employed to the poore mens chace.

**Keepers of the Church money.** 28. Item, who hath the sayde stockes and money  
 in the parishes, and what be theyr names.

**Contempt of Priests.** 29. Item, whether any in diuere persons do un-  
 charitably contemne and abuse Priests & Mi-  
 nisters of the Church.

**The kynges Grammar.** 30. Item, whether there be any other Grammar  
 taught in any scoole within this Realme, then  
 that which is set forth by the auctoritie of kyng  
 Henry the eighth.

**The tyme of service.** 31. Item, whether the seruice of the Church be  
 done at due and convenient houres.

**Walkers in the Church.** 32. Item, whether any haue bled to common  
 iangle, and talke in the Church, in the tyme of  
 the prayer, readyng of the Homylpe, preachyng,  
 readyng, or declaryng of the Scripture.

**Heresyes.** 33. Item, whether any haue wilfully maintey-  
 ned and defended any heresies, errors, or false  
 opinions contrary to the faith of Christ and ho-  
 ly Scriptures.

Item



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Item, whether any be common drunkardes, 34.  
swearers, or blasphemers of the name of God. Drunkardes

Item, whether any haue committed adulte- 35.  
rye, fornication, or incest, or be common bawdes, Adulterers,  
or receiuers of such euill persons, or vehemently  
suspected of any of the premises.

Item, whether any be brawlers, slanderers, 36.  
chyders, scolders, and sowers of discorde betwene Brawlers.  
one person and another.

Item, whether you knowe any that do vse 37.  
charmes, sorcerye, enchauntmentes, inuocati- Sorcerers.  
ons, circles, witchcraftes, southsaying, or any  
lyke craftes or imaginations inuented by the de-  
uill, and specialllye in the tyme of womens tra-  
uayle.

Item, whether the Churches, Pulpittes, and 38.  
other necessaryes apperteyning to the same, be Pulpittes,  
sufficiently repayed, and yf they be not, in whose  
default the same is.

Item, whether you knowe any, that in con- 39.  
tempt of their owne parryshe Church, do resort Reloysters to  
to any other Church. other Churches.

Item, whether any Inholders, or Alehouse- 40.  
keepers, do vse commonly to sell meate and drinke Inholders.  
in the tyme of common prayer, preaching, rea-  
ding of the Homplies or Scripture.

41. **Widozfe.** Item, whether you knowe any to be marryed within the degrees prohibited by the lawes of God, or that be seperated or disuozled without the degrees prohibited by the lawe of God, and whether any suche haue marryed agayne.
42. **Prinie con-  
tractes.** Item, whether you knowe any to haue made priuie contractes of Matrimonie, not calling two or mo witnesss therbnto, nor hauyng ther to the consent of their parentes.
43. **Banes.** Item, whether they haue marryed solemnly, the banes not fyrst lawfully asked.
44. **Erecutors** Item, whether you knowe any Erecutors or administratours of dead mens goodes, which do not duely bestowe suche of the sayde goodes as were geuen and bequeathed, or appoynted to be distributed among the poore people, repayryng of hygh wayes, fyndyng of poore scollers, or marryng of poore maydens, or suche other lyke charitable dedes.
45. **Images.** Item, whether you knowe any that kepe in theyr houses vndefaced, any Images, Tables, Pictures, payntynges, or other monumentes of fayned and false miracles, pilgrimages, ydolatry and superstition, and do adozre them, and special-lye suche as haue ben set vp in Churches, Chapelles, or Oratozies.
46. **Bookes.** Item, what bookes of Gods Scripture you haue

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haue deliuered to be burnt, or otherwise destroy-  
ed, and to whom ye haue deliuered the same.

Item, what bybes the accusers, promoters, 47.  
persecuters, Ecclesiasticall iudges, and other the Bybes.  
Commissioners appoynted within the seuerall  
Diocesse of this Realme, haue receyued by them  
selues or other, of those persons whiche were in  
trouble, apprehended, or imprysoned for Reli-  
gion.

Item, what goodes, moueable landes, fees, 48.  
offices, or promotions, hath ben wrongfully ta- Losse of  
ken away in the time of Quene Maries raigne, goodes.  
from any person whiche sauoured the Religion  
nowe set forth.

Item, howe many persons for Religion haue 49.  
died by fyre, famine, or other wyse, or haue ben  
imprysoned for the same, howe many  
burnt.

Item, that you make a true presentment of 50.  
the number of all the persons whiche died with- Certificat of  
in your parishes, sithen the feast of Saint Iohn the dead.  
the Baptiste, whiche was in the yere of our Lorde  
God a thousande five hundredeth fiftie and eyght,  
vnto the same feast last past. Making therein a  
playne distinct declaration, howe many men,  
women, and men chyldren the same were. And  
the names of the men.

Item, whether ye knowe any man in your 51.  
parishe, B. ii. secretes  
passed.

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parryshe, secretlye or in vnlawfull conuenticles, say or heare Masse, or any other seruice prohibited by the lawe.

52. **False rumours.** **Vnlawfull bookes.** Item, whether you knowe any person in your parryshe, to be a slanderer of his neyghbours, or a sowre of disorde betwene partie and partie, man and wyfe, parentes and their chyldren, or that hath inuented, bruted, or set forth any rumours, false and sedicions tales, slanders, or makers, byngers, byers, sellers, keepers, or conueyers, of any vnlawfull bookes, whiche might stirre or prouoke sedition, or mayntayne superstitious seruice within this Realme, or any aydours, counsaylours, procurers, or maynteyners therunto.

53. **Patron.** **Tythes.** **Vacation.** Item, whether the Churche of your parryshe be nowe vacant or no, who is the Patrone thereof, howe long it hath ben vacant, who doth receyue the tythes, oblations, and other commodities during the time of the vacation, and by what auctoritie, and in what estate the sayde Churche is at this time, and howe long the Parson or vicar hath had that Benefice.

54. **Spinsterelles.** Item, whether any Spinsterelles, or any other persons do vse to syng or say any songes or ditties that be vile or vncleane, and especialle in derision of any Godly order nowe set forth and establisshed.

Item,

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Item, whether the Letany in Englyshe, with  
the Epistle & Gospell, which was by the Quenes  
highnesse Proclamation willed to be read to the  
people, were put in vse in your Churches, and if  
not, who were the letters therof.

Item, whether the Curates and Ministers  
do leysurely, playnely, and distinctly, reade the  
publique Prayers, Chapters, and Homilyes, as  
they ought to do.

God saue the Quene.

IMPRINTED AT LONDON IN

Wotles Churchyarde, by Richearde Iugge  
and John Catwood, Printers to the  
Quenes Maestie.

¶ Cum privilegio Regie  
Maestatis.